

REMARKS

Applicant submits a Request for Continued Examination and presents new claims 19-38. Applicant respectfully submits that none of the claims can be considered anticipated or obvious in view of the *Grimm, et al.* (DE 199 46 008 A1) reference. The arrangement in that document has a roof layer 1 and a sunroof guide and profile member 15 associated with the plastic layer 3 and the seal 5. That document does not include two sheet pieces that provide a vehicle body exterior surface as recited, for example, in new claims 19 and 37. The *Grimm, et al.* reference also does not have first and second sheet pieces aligned to extend at least partially along a common plane as recited, for example, in claim 29.

Because of the different nature of a sunroof guide member and a sheet piece used for a vehicle body exterior component, it cannot be considered obvious to make any modifications to the *Grimm, et al.* reference that would render it consistent with Applicant's claims. There is no motivation for making a sunroof guide element the same as a sheet piece used for a vehicle body surface.

An Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed with this submission including a copy of the pending United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/670,780, which corresponds to the *Grimm, et al.* (DE 199 46 008 A1) reference.

Applicant respectfully submits that this case is in condition for allowance.

Payment for the Request for Continued Examination is enclosed. Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS

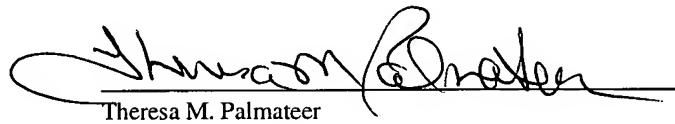
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Dated: January 31, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the **Amendment** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 31, 2005.


Theresa M. Palmateer

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